The Hues of Contemporaneity in the Select Novels of Anuja Chauhan : A Study

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INDEX

Sr.no.	Content Detail	Page No.
1	Introduction	03
2	Objectives	06
3	Scope and Limitations	07
4	Review of Literature	07
5	Hypothesis	08
6	Research Methodology	08
7	Data Collection	08
8	Chapter Scheme	09
9	Bibliography	10

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Introduction

Indian English fiction has undoubtedly attained a huge place among the literatures of the world after the Salman Rushdie era has brought in so much of commercial and critical success to Indian English fiction that has explored great ambition and major literary activities with many Indians aspiring to write English fiction !

There are some dominant Themes which have captured the imagination of the readers and have managed to create an unforgettable impact for themselves are as follows :- Social Realism, Political, National and Historical Themes , Indian diaspora and Immigration, Individual Experiences, Feminism and Women's Empowerment , etc

A romance novel or romantic novel is typically referred to as a genre of fiction that focuses on the romantic love and relationship between two people and typically has a "emotionally satisfying and optimistic ending." Literary fiction writers like Charlotte Bronte, Jane Austen, and Samuel Richards are examples of forerunners.

The romance novel has many different subgenres, such as science fiction, fantasy, gothic contemporary, historical romance, and more. Category romances, also referred to as series romances and single title romances, are two subcategories of romance novels. Despite the fact that many authors only write in one of the formats, others, like Jennifer Cruise and Jayne Ann Krentz, have found success in both.

"Romance" is one of the most popular book genres out there, and Indian Romance novels are getting more popular every day. There are plenty of great Indian authors who are writing incredible love and romantic stories. They definitely help to get different perspectives on love.

Key to My Soul (2003) by Probal Mazumdar follows the lives of two characters, Horel and Siddarth. *Your Dreams Are Mine Now* (2014) by Ravinder Singh is set on the Delhi University Campus; this is the story of Arjun and Rupali. *Till The Caste Breath* (2022) is the story of two patients fighting for their lives by Durjoy Dutta, who is known as an Engineer and young achiever. *Dating Dr.Dil* (2022) by Nisha Sharma introduces us to the feisty Kareena Mann. *You Are the Best Wife* (2015) by Ajay Pandey is the story of two people who fall in love despite having opposing ideologies. *Truly, Madly, Deeply* (2010) by Faraaz Kazi is a teenage college romance, between the shy Seema and the highfalutin Rahul. And *2 States: The Story of My Marriage* (2009) by Chetan Bhagat tells the story of Krish and Ananya.

A person, animal, object, or thing that is portrayed as a person in a story is called a literary character.A story must have two essential components: characters and the plot, or the events that take place in the story. A story must have characters, though most stories will have multiple characters who are intertwined.
For instance, the experience of the main character may be internal or external.

Internal: The characters overcoming grief.

External: Characters in conflict with another or a character surviving a natural disaster.

There are different types of characters include: protagonists, antagonists, static, round and flat characters.

Characteristics of the characters are also called as character traits. Character traits are a combination of the different qualities that define a character, such as thoughts, feelings, personality, and the choices they make. In short, these characters' traits make them who they are. It also allows the author to create different character types. Like faithful, kind, generous, earnest, determined, open minded, brave, quiet, fair, unselfish, hopeful, deceitful, treacherous, mean, unpolished, jealous, materialistic, inpatient, petty, selfish, unforgiving, etc. Not only do character traits help to describe the character, but they also help to drive the story forward.

Anuja Chauhan is an Indian author, advertiser, and screenwriter. As a writer, she is known for *The Zoya Factor* (2008). *The Zoya Factor* is about a Rajput woman named Zoya Singh Solanki who meets the Indian Cricket Team through her job as an executive in an advertising agency and becomes a lucky charm for the team for the 2011 Cricket World Cup. *Battle for Bittora* (2010) is a second novel in which Jinni is a common woman of twenty-five years, lives in Mumbai Jinni works in an animation studio. She is very content with her normal and independent life.

Anuja Chauhan's third novel, *Those Pricey Thakur Girls* (2013), in which author described a sprawling bungalow in New Delhi Posh Hailey road, Justice Laxmi Narayan Thakur and his wife Mamata spend their days watching anxiously over their five beautiful but troublesome alphabetically named daughters. After this, *House That BJ Built* (2015) is a recap of the lives of the alphabetically named sisters, Anjini, Binodini, Chandralekha, Debjani, Eshwari, and *The Pricey Thakur Girls*,who have families and problems of their own. The fifth novel of Anuja Chauhan is *Bazz* (2017). It is primarily the story of the dashing flying officer Ishaan "Bazz" Faujdar, batch of '68' hero of the 1971 war. And sixth novel by Anuja Chauhan is *Club You to Death* (2021) deviates from romance, it describes a dead, handsome trainer, too many suspects, and the prestigious Delhi Turf Club (DTC).

The proposed research work will focus on the characters and characteristics of the selected romantic narratives of Anuja Chauhan. She has presented ample scope through her writings for the study of characters and characteristics due to her lively narration. It will also take into account the various techniques that Anuja Chauhan used in her novels, which help to define characters and
their characteristics easily. The selected novels for a research study are-

- *The Zoya Factor* (2008),
- *Battle for Bittora* (2010),
- *Those Pricey Thakur Girls* (2013),
- *The House that BJ Built* (2015),
- *Baaz*(2017),
- *Club You to Death* (2021)

Objectives:

1) To critically analyze the contemporaneity in the selected novels of Anuja Chauhan.

2) To study Some notions , goals and ambitions of certain characters from the selected novels of Anuja Chauhan.

3) To analyze major themes, form the selected novels.

4) To analyze the writing style of Anuja Chauhan.

5) To study the contemporary familiar novels of other writers.

Scope and Limitations:

The proposed research work is an attempt to study the hues of contemporaneity in the selected novels of Anuja Chauhan, which have interesting characters and unique qualities. Anuja Chauhan's novels represent contemporary, modern real life stories. The scope of the study will be to focus on and discuss various themes , relationship issues, character traits, characterization theories, types of characters, the development of characters, their elements, styles, and techniques used by Anuja Chauhan in her selected novels. There is no previous research on this topic.

Review of Literature:

Research has been done in the field of studying the characters' characteristics in Indian English novels, However, Anuja Chauhan remained much unexplored from the point of a critical study of the hues of contemporaneity in the selected novels. This aspect of the investigation is not touched by many researchers. It can be discussed thoroughly in the proposed study.

Hypothesis:

a) Anuja Chauhan has been driven full of creativity by her love for literature.

b) Anuja Chauhan's specialty is writing rom-com novels that are reader friendly and easy to understand.

c) Characters from Anuja Chauhan's selected novels are always helping, motivating and inspiring people as a reader.

d) There are so many hues of contemporaneity in Anuja Chauhan's selected novels.

Research Methodology:

The researcher will use descriptive and analytical methods for finding the facts. The study will be based on primary and secondary sources. The primary sources will be the original texts and secondary sources will be the books, research articles and material available in the libraries and on the internet.

Data Collection:

The proposed research work will be carried on by applying qualitative research methodology and data collection will be done from the following sources:

1) Primary data collections will be from the original texts of Anuja Chauhan.

2) Secondary data will be based on research articles, journals, reviews and familiar romantic narratives of other writers.

3) The interview of Anuja Chauhan and interaction with other eminent scholars will from a source of secondary data.

4) Web sources will be another source of secondary data.

Chapter Scheme:

The tentative chapter scheme is as follows:

Chapter I – Introduction

The first chapter will focus on introducing various hues of contemporaneity in the selected novels of Anuja Chauhan.

1. The History Indian English literature.

2. Details study of selected novels.

3. Various themes of the fiction writing.

4. Relationships and traits of characters.

Chapter II - Review of Literature

This chapter will cover the review of research articles, journals, critical reviews, M.Phil. and Ph.D. thesis having topic related to the hues of contemporaneity of Indian novels.

Chapter III – The Critical Study of the major themes and issues raised in the selected novels of Anuja Chauhan

This chapter will analyze critically the select fictions as the contemporary novels. It will focus on the select fictions as rom-com, cricket romantic fiction, etc. It will try to discuss major romantic themes. It will discover characters' name, personal information, hobbies interests, personality roles in the book, relationships with other characters, major conflicts, and overall change throughout the course of the study.

Chapter IV - The Critical Study of the contemporaneity in the selected fictions of Anuja Chauhan

In this chapter, the critical analysis of the contemporaneity of Anuja Chauhan will be covered. It will also discuss the major characters like Zoya Singh Solanki, Nikhil Khoda, Monita Mukherjee,etc. from *The Zoya Factor*. Jinni, Zain Altaf Khan or Zak, etc. from the novel *Battle for Bittora*. Anjini, Binodini, chandrakanta, Eshwari, etc. from the novel *Those Pricey Thakur Girls*, these same characters are also get in the novel *The House that BJ Built* which is sequel of *Those Pricey Thakur Girls*. Ishaan Fauzdaar, Maddy, Raka, etc. from the novel *Baaz* and Akash Dogra, Bambi Tadi, ACP Bhavani Sing, etc. in the latest novel of Anuja Chauhan, *Club You to Death*.

Chapter V - Conclusion

This chapter will evaluate the accomplishment of the proposed hypothesis and objectives of the research study with the help of critical observations and interpretations.

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